



MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION  
COMMITTEE  
45th session  
Agenda item 10

MEPC 45/10/1  
19 June 2000  
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## WORK OF OTHER BODIES

### Outcome of C 84

#### Note by the Secretariat

#### SUMMARY

**Executive summary:** This note provides information on the outcome of the eighty-fourth session of the Council which is relevant to the work of the Committee.

**Action to be taken:** Paragraph 8

**Related documents:** C 84/D

#### Introduction

1 The eighty-fourth session of the Council (C 84) was held from 12 to 16 June 2000 under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. A. Dubbeld ( The Netherlands) and its summary of decisions was issued as C 84/D. The matters of interest to the Committee are summarized in the following paragraphs.

#### Consideration of the report of the Maritime Safety Committee

2 In consideration of the report of the seventy-second session of the Maritime Safety Committee (C 84/5/Add.1), the Council noted the Secretary-General's policy statement on issues arising from the sinking of the tanker **Erika** off the west coast of France in December 1999 and the reiteration, at MSC 72, of his position that:

- (i) IMO should, always and without exception, be regarded as the only forum where safety and pollution prevention standards affecting international shipping should be considered and adopted; and
- (ii) regional, let alone unilateral, application to foreign flag ships of national requirements which go beyond IMO standards would be detrimental to international shipping and to the functioning of the Organization and should, therefore, be avoided.

3 The Council also noted the MSC Chairman's summing-up and, in particular, the MSC's general support for the Secretary-General's statement and its unanimous wish that a clear

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message be sent to the MEPC underlining MSC's full support when dealing with proposals relating to the **Erika** incident in the most urgent and expeditious manner.

### **Consideration of the report of the Marine Environment Protection Committee**

4 The Council took note of the report of the Marine Environment Protection Committee on the work of its forty-fourth session (C 84/7/Add.1) which will be transmitted to the Assembly at its twenty-second regular session, in accordance with Article 21(b) of the IMO Convention.

5 In particular, the Council noted:

- (i) the progress made by the MEPC in dealing with the harmful effects of the use of anti-fouling paints and harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water;
- (ii) that the MEPC adopted the proposed amendments to the Appendix to MARPOL Annex III;
- (iii) that the MEPC approved the proposed designation of the North Sea as a SOx emission control area under MARPOL Annex VI;
- (iv) that the MEPC approved the draft Assembly resolution on the Availability of low sulphur bunker fuel oils in designated SOx emission control areas;
- (v) that the MEPC approved the text of the revised MARPOL Annex IV; and
- (vi) the concern of the MEPC regarding the management of its increasing workload in dealing with environmental matters.

6 The Council congratulated the MEPC and its Chairman for their achievements and the progress made since the Committee's last session, and also expressed gratitude to Mr. O. Khalimonov, Director of the Marine Environment Division, for his contribution to the protection of the marine environment.

### **Report on the Conference on International Co-operation on Preparedness and Response to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances**

7 The Council:

- (i) noted the successful conclusion of the Conference on International Co-operation on Preparedness and Response to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances and the information related to the outcome of the Conference (C 84/9);
- (ii) expressed appreciation to Mr. Rolf Stamm (Germany), President of the Conference, to Captain L. Diaz Monclus (Venezuela), Mr. G. Eneh (Nigeria) and Captain A. Othman (Venezuela), Vice-Presidents of the Conference and to Mr. T. Melhuish (Canada), Chairman of the Working Group, for their excellent work, and to the Secretary-General for his continuous efforts for the protection of the marine environment;

- (iii) authorized the Secretary-General to perform the functions requested of him by the Conference as set out in the Final Act, in particular, in Resolution 4 and Resolution 6; and
- (iv) requested the MEPC at its forty-fifth session to consider the outcome of the HNS-OPRC Conference, in particular Resolution 4 and Resolution 6, and report accordingly.

**Action requested of the Committee**

- 8 The Committee is invited to note the above information and take action as appropriate.
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